

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COL

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COMMISSIONERS 3

KRISTIN K. MAYES, Chairman GARY PIERCE PAUL NEWMAN SANDRA D. KENNEDY **BOB STUMP**

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MASKINA COMMUNICATIONS, INC., FOR THE CANCELLATION OF ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY.

DOCKET NO. T-04159A-09-0002

DECISION NO. 71223

ORDER

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Open Meeting July 28 and 29, 2009 Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that:

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FINDINGS OF FACT

- Maskina Communications, Inc., ("Maskina" or "Company") has a Certificate of 1. Convenience and Necessity ("Certificate") to provide resold interexchange telecommunications services within Arizona pursuant to Decision No. 65990 (January 6, 2003).
- 2. On January 5, 2009, the Company filed with the Commission an application for cancellation of its Certificate ("Application"). Maskina stated that it no longer intends to provide service in Arizona and currently has no customers in Arizona.
- 3. On February 17, 2009, Maskina filed its responses to Commission's Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") First Set of Data Requests ("Responses").
- On May 5, 2009, Staff filed its Staff Report recommending approval of Maskina's 4. Application.
- 5. According to Maskina, it ceased service to its last customer on September 30, 2008, three months before it filed its Application. Attached to the Company's Responses is an Affidavit

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27 28 attesting that Maskina has no Arizona customers.

- 6. In its Application, the Company stated that its parent company, Vyke Communications plc, a publicly traded company incorporated in the United Kingdom, has determined to terminate most of it operations in the United States. Maskina's Responses note that it has authority to provide telecommunications services in 41 states and is in the process of surrendering these authorizations.
- 7. Staff verified with the Company that it did not collect advances, deposits and/or prepayments from its former customers.
- 8. The Commission's Consumer Services Section of the Commission's Utilities Division reported that there were no customer complaints, inquiries or opinions against the Company, and that the Company is in good standing with the Commission's Corporations Division.
- 9. The Company did not comply with the terms of A.A.C. R-14-2-1107, requiring the Company to provide notice to customers of its discontinuation of service, a plan for the refund of deposits, a list of alternate providers, and to publish notice of the application. In its Responses, Maskina requested a waiver of these provisions because "it has not been actively providing services under its license in recent months and because the services it previously delivered are readily available from a lengthy list of competitive providers, no areas of the state are measurably 'affected by the application' to cancel its authorization."
- 10. Staff concurs with Maskina's reasoning and recommends that Company compliance with the provisions of A.A.C. R-14-2-1107 should be waived.
- 11. As discussed in Decision No. 67404 (November 2, 2004), it would render A.A.C. R14-2-1107 meaningless and would run afoul of the rule's intent and plain language to exempt a Company from the requirements of the rule because it has no customers due to its discontinuation of service. However, as discussed in that Decision, the intent of the rule is to ensure that existing customers have advance notice of a telecommunications provider's pending plan to discontinue service such that they will be afforded an opportunity to procure service through an alternative provider prior to such discontinuance.

¹ Responses, page 2.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Application of Maskina Communications, Inc., for the cancellation of its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to provide resold interexchange telecommunications services in Arizona shall be, and is hereby, approved, and its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity is cancelled.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION.

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COMMISSIONER	СОМ	MISSIOMER

ERNEST G. JOHNSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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2	DOCKET NO.:	T-04159A-09-0002		
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